Emergency Response Tabletop Exercises for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems Train-the-Trainers Workshop

EPA is making available a new CD product entitled Emergency Response Tabletop Exercises for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems. The tabletop exercises on this CD were developed to help train water and wastewater utility workers in the application of their emergency response plans. In total, twelve unique exercises can be created from the CD from five basic event types: intentional contamination, security breach, cyber security, physical attack, and interdependency. Users are also encouraged to adapt the materials on the CD to meet their own needs and objectives.

The exercises also contain secondary roles for health officials, laboratories, fire, police, emergency medical services, and local, state, and federal officials. The training goal of the CD is to strengthen the relationships between a water supplier and their emergency response team members and to enable water suppliers to "test" their emergency response plans before an actual incident occurs.

In addition to the exercises contained on the CD, there are also "train-the-trainer" materials aimed at helping users to conduct their own successful tabletop training. Ready-to-go training presentations are provided with instructor notes. The presentations (which can be user-modified) include:

1) Background, Purpose, and Value of Exercises;
2) How to Set-up for an Enhanced Tabletop Exercise;
3) How to Conduct an Enhanced Tabletop Exercise;
4) How to Conduct an After Action Review;
5) the Incident Command System;
6) the National Incident Management System;
7) the Response Protocol Toolbox; and
8) the National Response Plan.

To get a copy of the tabletop exercise CD, visit EPA's website at http://www.epa.gov/watersecurity and look under "Tools and Technical Assistance." To find out more information about a free, EPA sponsored, 1-day regional CD training seminar in your area, please click on or visit www.horsleywitten.com/ttt.

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